

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed February 15, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration.

As a preliminary matter, Applicant notes with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 4-6, 8, and 10-15.

Claims 11-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. In particular in claims 11 and 13, the Office Action noted that a “,” should be inserted. Applicant has made this change to the claims and therefore claims 11-14 should now be in allowable condition. Applicant notes that this change is for clarification only and does not narrow the scope of the claims.

Claims 1-3, 7, 9, 16-20, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Williams. Claims 1, 7, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hossain. However, the Office Action goes on to state that claims 4-6, 8, 10, and 15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Although Applicant respectfully disagrees with these rejections and believes that the claims already of record distinguish over the references, for purposes of expediting prosecution, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the subject matter of claims 3 and 4. Claims 3 and 4 have been canceled. Claim 8 has been amended to include the subject matter of claims 1 and 7 and claim 7 has been canceled. The dependency of claim 9 has been changed to depend from newly independent claim 8. Claim 16 has been canceled and the dependency of claims 17, 18, and 19 have been changed to depend from claim 21. New claims 24, 25, and 26 depend from allowed claim 22. Claim 23 has been canceled.

As a result of these amendments, claims 1, 2, 5-6, 8-15, 17-22, and 24-26 should now be in allowable condition.

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CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,

Sebastien FERROUSSAT

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